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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 SANAA 002778

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NEA/ARPI, CA/OCS, CENTCOM FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/18/2015

TAGS: [AEMR](#) [ASEC](#) [PTER](#) [AMGT](#) [YM](#) [EAC](#)

SUBJECT: SANAA EAC MEETING

REF: A) STATE 165862 AND B) STATE 162859

Classified By: RSO William Mellott for reasons 1.4 (a), (b) and (g)

11. (S/NF) On 09/18/05, EAC met to discuss RefTel's A and B. Members in attendance were AMB, DCM, RSO, POLM, OMC, DAO, MO, POLE, PD, CONS, LEGATT, AID, AND CCE.

12. (S/NF) Members discussed RefTel A, JEDDAH, Lessons Learned-Follow Up. RSO specifically addressed para 7, which directed RSO's to review post security posture and ensure that issues A-G were reviewed, discussed and incorporated into post's security plan. RSO briefed the EAC on each matter, as noted below.

1A. T-Guard System: The T-Guard system is currently a part of the facilities force continuum and is included the EAP, MSG Guard Orders and MSG Guard School training. RSO will immediately conduct additional training to ensure all MSG personnel are aware of their authority to dispense tear gas, what constitutes exigent circumstances and under what conditions they may act, without seeking permission from the chain of command.

1B. MSG React Positions: RSO will coordinate with post's Detachment Commander and review existing react positions to ensure they provide the highest level of protection for defenders as well as provide adequate defensive positions for the protection of the Mission.

1C. US/Host Government Security Liaison: RSO, Mission sections and other agencies at post maintain daily contact with Host Government Security and Intelligence Officials to ensure the security of U.S. Embassy personnel and properties. RSO will review RefTel guidance concerning walk-throughs, combined exercises and table-top sessions and will coordinate such activities if the EAC and Senior Management agree it is in post's best interests. Post currently has an MOU with the Ministry of Interior to provide armed, 24/7 coverage by a battalion of ROYG, Ministry of Interior, Central Security Organization (CSO) para-military forces. The assigned forces surround the Embassy, covering areas up to 300 meters from the perimeter. Additionally, all residential and commercial structures surrounding the Embassy compound are secured by the Political Security Office (PSO) to reduce the likelihood of any attack/s from the many rooftops overlooking the Embassy compound. All Embassy residences are provided security from the CSO on a 24/7 basis.

1D. RSO Participation is MSG React drills and MSG Guard Schools: RSO only recently arrived at post, but in previous postings has, at a minimum, attended MSG Guard Schools once a month and has required ARSO's to attend every session. RSO and all ARSO's will/do participate in every MSG react drill, Embassy-Wide Drills and include the Local Guard Force in those exercises.

1E. RSO is scheduling bi-monthly, Embassy-Wide drills that include all personnel at post. RSO considers Embassy-Wide Drills an integral part of the post security plan and, upon arrival this month of two new ARSO's, will kick off an aggressive drill program. Post enthusiastically supports active participation by LES in Crisis Management Training and will continue to do so in the future.

1F. MSG Off-Site SPE Storage: MSG/BEQ is located on the Embassy Compound.

1G. RSO continually reviews post security posture, vulnerabilities, strategies and tactics. RSO is currently updating the EAP and will include information from RefTel A in its post defense plan. RSO will review the EAP with all agencies at post prior to submission.

13. (S/NF) Members discussed the bi-annual Security Environment Profile Questionnaire and all agreed with the document as presented by the RSO.

14. (S/NF) EAC members presented several other issues for discussion during the session.

1A. Dependents at post: Post is currently prohibited from having dependents over 4 years of age and under 21 years of age at post. In the past six months there has been a reduction in threat reporting against AmCits and, in the opinion of the EAC, the atmosphere in Sana'a has calmed and the city is generally seen as safe. Additionally, the ROYG has allowed regular official travel to areas once deemed not secure. This reduction of tension and seemingly relaxed travel threat prompted the EAC to revisit the issue of dependents at post. The EAC unanimously agreed to request a reduction in age from 21 to 18, in order to allow college aged dependents to visit post during holidays. The RSO would to provide security briefings to dependents and continuously monitor the security profile of the city in order that dependents can enjoy family visitation during holidays.

1B. Consular Travel Warning: EAC members agreed to revisit the Consular Travel Warning during the next EAC, with the intention of toning down the language of the warning, in light of recent positive security developments in Sana'a and the countryside.

1C. Weekly Scheduled Meetings: EAC members agreed that the practice of weekly EAC meetings was unnecessary due to the reduction in tensions mentioned previously. EAC members agreed to a scheduled monthly meeting, or as needed meetings based on local and world events, was prudent.  
Krajeski